

credit union movement, and Navy Federal Credit Union has exemplified that philosophy for decades. I wish Mr. Dawson good luck in his new role as a member of the NAFCU board of directors.

**RECOGNIZING NATHANIAL CALEB HORN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nathaniel Caleb Horn, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 204, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Nathan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Nathan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Nathaniel Caleb Horn for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**HONORING TIM FRIEDMAN**

SPEECH OF

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 24, 2006*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend sincere congratulations to my friend Tim Friedman upon his retirement from the Democratic Cloakroom. Tim, a Lackawanna, NY native, has dedicated 30 years of his life to service in the House of Representatives.

Tim began his career in Washington in 1976 in the House of Representatives under Congressman Dan Rostenkowski. Shortly after, he worked under Doorkeeper James T. Molloy as a doorkeeper and in 1982 transferred to the House Sergeant at Arms. In 1985, Tim was appointed to the House Democratic Cloakroom as Assistant Manager. For over 20 years, Tim has been a constant presence in the Cloakroom, and has tirelessly worked on behalf of House Democrats.

The Democratic Cloakroom has been like a home away from home for me over these past 19 months. It's been an honor and pleasure to have Buffalo guys in the Cloakroom—people like Tim Friedman and Bob Fischer, who have been terrific public servants in the House, and who have shown me the ropes and ways of the House.

It is with great pride and gratitude that I stand here today to recognize Tim Friedman for his many years of service and for his commitment to Democrats, and the House of Representatives. I wish Tim and his wife Colleen many years of continued health and happiness.

**HONORING TIM FRIEDMAN**

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 24, 2006*

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, somehow, I thought Tim and I would grow old together. For 30 years, he has always been there for us: friendly, informed, endlessly patient with our endless questions, and always ready with his wry smile.

There will be a void now in the cloakroom, a physical gap that we all will feel. But more: there will be a void in our Caucus, where Tim has provided such competent guidance, continuity and wisdom.

Godspeed, Tim. You have made a big difference here.

**TRIBUTE TO KEN WRINKLE OF HERNANDO COUNTY, FL**

**HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished veteran and true friend to the men and women who served in our armed forces. Ken Wrinkle, a man who I have known and worked with for many years, passed away just last week. Beloved by those whose lives he touched, Ken's memory will live on with the veterans of Hernando County, FL.

Born in Pontiac, MI, in 1950, Ken and his family moved to Miami, FL, in 1952. Following his high school graduation and time spent in college, Ken enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1969.

A Vietnam combat veteran, Ken was awarded the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Ribbon for wounds received in battle. Evacuated to the United States, Ken recovered from his injuries and received a medical discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps.

Continuing his studies at Michigan State University, Ken graduated from college in 1974. While in pursuit of his degree, Ken met and married his wife Linda. Following graduation, Ken volunteered to re-enter the U.S. Marines Corps through the Officer Candidate Program and was commissioned an Infantry Lieutenant. Ken went on to successfully complete 20 years of service, retiring as a Major on January 1, 1993.

Eventually settling with his family in Spring Hill, FL, in May 1993, Ken, a disabled veteran, was named the Hernando County Veterans Services Officer and Director. Following 12 years of distinguished service to the veteran community, illness forced him to retire in July 2005.

As Director of Veterans' Services, Ken was able to accomplish several of his goals for the region, including starting a network to provide transportation for veterans to the Tampa VA hospital. He also supported the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Brooksville, a facility that today serves over 23,000 veterans annually.

Ken is survived by his wife of 33 years, Linda, a teacher at Powell Middle School, and

his son, John, a U.S. Air Force veteran currently attending college.

Mr. Speaker, the volunteer spirit of men like Ken Wrinkle shines through in the legacy he has left behind in Hernando County. Unfortunately, one less star will be shining in our local veteran community. From now on, area veterans must look up to the heavens to see Ken's light shining down on them from above. I speak for many when I say that Ken Wrinkle will be sorely missed.

**RECOGNIZING TRENT KENDALL GERMAN FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT**

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Trent Kendall German a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 9, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Trent has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Trent has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Trent Kendall German for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

**TRIBUTE TO STATE REPRESENTATIVE ALLEN LAYSON**

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor State Representative Allen Layson on the occasion of his retirement from the Alabama House of Representatives. Allen is a man who embodies the American principles of hard work, dedication to one's family and service to one's country. I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this Nation to recognize his many accomplishments.

Allen was born on December 16, 1931 in Eatonton, Georgia. He graduated from Eatonton High School in 1947. He entered the United States Army Reserves in 1948 and volunteered for active duty service in 1951 and was discharged in 1953. Immediately after leaving the Army, Allen attended the University of Georgia and earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forestry in just three years, graduating in 1956.

Allen and his family moved to Pickens County in 1969, and he soon demonstrated his outstanding leadership to the Reform community. He served as president of the Reform Rotary Club, is the founder of the Reform Area Public Library, is a member of the American Legion, a member of the Pickens County Mental Health Association, a Master Mason, and a member of the Boy Scout Troop Committee.

First elected to the Alabama House of Representatives in 1986, Allen has served the Sixty-First district with distinction for the past twenty years. During his tenure he was a strong proponent of our Second Amendment rights and worked hard to protect the family and our religious liberties. A social and fiscal conservative, he voted consistently to ensure that Alabama provided an economic atmosphere in which business and industry could grow and prosper.

Allen is a true friend of the volunteer fire fighter. Through his efforts, a three mil revenue tax was enacted in 1999, and amended in 2004, to provide badly needed funding to the volunteer fire departments in Pickens County. This funding allows the volunteer fire departments to purchase equipment, provide training and cover operating costs. This has greatly enhanced their firefighting capabilities, thus reducing insurance rates and thereby saving money for Alabama families.

He served as a Commissioner on the Alabama Forestry Commission from 1979 to 1983, served as president of the Alabama Division for the Society of American Foresters, is a Trustee of the Alabama Forest Products Workman's Compensation Fund, served as president and is a lifetime member of the Alabama Wildlife Federation, is a member of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association, a member of the Sierra Club and a member of sixteen volunteer fire departments. Also, Allen has served on the board of directors for the Tennessee Tombigbee Waterway Development Authority since his appointment by Governor Guy Hunt in 1991.

He has been distinguished as the recipient of the Governor's Conservationist of the Year Award in Forestry in 1982, the Kelly Mosley Environmental Award in 1985 and the APA Southwestern United States Technical Writing Award in 1981.

Of all of Allen's accomplishments, perhaps his greatest achievement was convincing the former JoAnn Kimberly to marry him. They were married on September 15, 1949 and are the proud parents of five children; Butch, Allen, Jr., Kim, James and Michael. Allen and JoAnn are faithful members of Reform First United Methodist Church where Allen has served as a Lay Leader and Lay Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor State Representative Allen Layson for his many achievements and his enduring impact on his country, state, community, friends and family. He is a man of great dignity and character who takes pride in the accomplishments of those he has helped over the years. Allen is an inspiring role model for all of us and I join his family, friends and colleagues in wishing him God's richest blessings in his retirement.

#### HONORING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE VETERANS HOMES

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 24, 2006*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, as a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 347, I am pleased to support this resolution hon-

oring the work of the National Association of State Veterans Homes and the 119 homes across the country that honor our nation's heroes.

I am proud to work on closely with the State Veterans Home in Paramus, New Jersey. This excellent facility is run by caring individuals who work hard each day to see that our veterans are given the care that they earned sacrificing for our nation. Veterans Affairs Secretary Nicholson recently had the opportunity to tour the facility with me and see the tremendous effort that Doris Neibart, director of the home, and all the nurses and staff have put into caring for veterans in the final stages of life's journey.

Throughout the 20th Century and now into the 21st, the American soldier, sailor, airman, and Marine has been a force for good in this world. Working together, they have kept our nation safe from the threats of fascism, communism, and now terrorism. We owe them all a great debt of gratitude and the best care we can provide.

Our nation has a rich history of promoting freedom and spreading democracy, a history that was made possible by countless individuals who served in our armed forces. We remember all who contributed as well as those that stand ready to serve the cause of freedom today. I am proud to represent so many selfless and brave heroes and to honor those who work for their welfare.

#### GROWING SUPPORT FOR THE SAFE COMMISSION

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 25, 2006*

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I recently introduced legislation in the House of Representatives aimed at addressing the looming financial crisis facing the Nation, H.R. 5552—the Securing America's Future Economy (SAFE) Commission Act. The bill would establish a national bipartisan commission that will put everything—entitlement spending as well as all other Federal programs and our Nation's tax policies—on the table and require Congress to vote up or down on its recommendations in their entirety, similar to the process set in 1988 to close military bases. Mandating congressional action on the panel's recommendations is what differentiates this commission from previous ones.

Support for the bill is coming from both sides of the aisle. I submit for the Record a recent analysis by the Heritage Foundation; a letter of support from the Concord Coalition; a letter from Douglas Holt-Eakin, former director of the Congressional Budget Office, and letters from several former Members.

I also am pleased to submit today the names of 20 of my colleagues who are co-sponsoring the SAFE Commission measure and urge the remainder of my colleagues to join as well. This legislation will be good for the future of America.

THE CONCORD COALITION,  
*Arlington, VA, June 28, 2006.*

Hon. FRANK WOLF,  
*House of Representatives*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. WOLF: On behalf of The Concord Coalition, I am writing to express our deep

appreciation for your leadership in sponsoring the Securing America's Future Economy (SAFE) Act, which would establish a bipartisan commission to recommend legislation addressing our nation's unsustainable long-term fiscal outlook.

We strongly agree with you that the need for serious action is not just an economic imperative but a moral one as well. We also share your view that partisan divisions in Washington have become so wide that a commission may now be the only way forward on this issue. By establishing a fiscal policy commission with a broad mandate, meaningful public engagement, and the ability to consider all policy options, your legislation represents a very constructive step toward bringing about consensus solutions.

The demographic and fiscal challenges facing the budget in the years ahead are well known. Analysts of diverse ideological perspectives and nonpartisan officials at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Government Accountability Office (GAO) have all warned that current fiscal policy is unsustainable over the long-term.

What is needed now is a clear commitment to address these issues in a straightforward, generationally equitable and bipartisan manner. Achieving consensus around the hard choices that must eventually be made will require open minds and bipartisan cooperation. Your legislation would establish a process to do just that.

Recently, The Concord Coalition organized a forum with experts from across the political spectrum to discuss the possibility of establishing a bipartisan commission to deal with our long-term fiscal outlook. Three conclusions from the forum stand out:

The commission must have meaningful participation and input from a broad range of views. Bipartisan support is essential to enacting and maintaining policies that will put the budget on a fiscally sustainable course.

The commission should have a broad mandate with no limitations on what policy options the commission can consider or preconditions on what must be included—or not included—in a proposal. Everything must be on the table, including revenues as well as entitlements and other spending.

The commission should engage the public in a dialogue about the long-term fiscal challenges and the tradeoffs that will be necessary to bring about a more secure and sustainable economic future.

The Concord Coalition commends your proposal because it recognizes each of these conclusions. The SAFE Act would establish a bipartisan commission of experts and legislators appointed by the President and Congressional leaders of both parties. The Commission would be directed to hold hearings across the country and incorporate the input from the public in its report. This is a very welcome provision. The public should be treated as if it were, in effect, a member of the commission. Doing so will enhance the commission's credibility and help build acceptance for its recommendations. Our experience hosting meetings around the nation on this issue has demonstrated that when the American people are armed with the facts and given the opportunity for honest dialogue, they are willing to set priorities and make the hard choices that often are not made in Washington.

Most importantly, the Commission would be allowed to consider all policy options to address the imbalance between long-term spending commitments and projected revenues, including reforms of entitlement programs and tax laws. In our view, this is an essential prerequisite for attracting well-respected individuals to serve on the commission and for finding solutions that are both substantive and politically viable.